GAU 2644

PATENT
Att'y Dkt: 2207/5913

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:	
SAGER, *ET AL.*	EXAMINER: UNASSIGNED
SERIAL NO.: 09/745,549	
FILED: DECEMBER 26, 2000	ART UNIT: 2644
FOR : SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PARTIAL MERGES FOR SUB-REGISTER DATA OPERATIONS	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph on page 2, beginning at line 6, with the paragraph shown below. A clean version of the replacement paragraph is attached hereto.

Typically, the merge occurs when the instruction is retired. For example, ~~the Pentium® Pro P6 processor (manufactured by Intel Corporation of Santa Clara, California),~~one prior art processor supports 8 and 16 bit operations. To merge an 8 or 16 bit result with the unchanged bits of a register, ~~the P6~~ a prior art processor uses a Retired Register File (RRF). The RRF maintains copies of each of the eight physical registers of the x86. When an instruction is retired (which can occur well after the instruction was executed), the 8, 16, or 32 bit result of the instruction is transmitted to the RRF. Using its copy of the register in question, the RRF merges the result of the